DIVISION OF PAROLE & PROBATION

Henry L. Templeton, Director

Donald Atkinson, Ed.D., Executive Assistant
Director

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764-4274

The Division of Parole and Probation was constituted in 1939 to administer State parole and probation laws (Chapter 406, Acts of 1939). In 1953, the Division was renamed the Department of Parole and Probation (Chapter 653, Acts of 1953). The Department was reorganized in 1968 separate from the Board of Parole (Chapter 457, Acts of 1968). In 1970, the Department was renamed the Division of Parole and Probation (Chapter 401, Acts of 1970).

The Division supervises the conduct of parolees and adult probationers. It regularly informs the Maryland Parole Commission of parolees' activities and notifies the District or Circuit Courts of probationers' activities. At its discretion, the Division recommends that the Commission issue warrants to retake parolees charged with violation of parole. Warrants also are requested from the courts to apprehend probationers charged with violating conditions of their probation.

The Division uses a case management system to classify offenders based upon the risk of their continued criminal activity and need for services. For parolees and probationers, the Division offers counseling, casework, and diagnosis of substance abuse and other problems. The Division also refers clients to community treatment programs. Citizen volunteers help counsel and supervise parolees and probationers.

The Division undertakes various types of investigations, when requested, for the courts of Maryland, the Maryland Parole Commission, and the Governor. Unless otherwise ordered, a presentence investigation is completed for the court when the sentencing of a defendant convicted of felony in a Circuit Court may result in the defendant being remanded to the jurisdiction of the Division of Correction or referred to Patuxent Institution.

At the direction of the Court of Special Appeals, the Division investigates, reports, and makes recommendations regarding applications for review of criminal sentences. Where a felony offense caused physical, psychological or economic injury, the Division prepares a victim impact statement as part of the presentence investigation. A victim impact statement also is prepared when a misdemeanor offense has caused serious physical injury or death.

Division investigations help the Maryland Parole Commission determine whether to grant parole. The Division also investigates the home and employment proposals of parolees and probationers from other states wanting to live in Maryland under the Uniform Out-of-State Parolee Supervision Act.

At the request of the Governor or the Governor's designee, the Division also investigates and reports on persons applying for pardon, commutation of sentence, or clemency.

The Director of the Division of Parole and Probation is appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the approval of the Governor and Senate advice and consent. The Director serves at the pleasure of the Secretary. (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 4-601 through 4-613).

BUREAU OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS Donald Atkinson, Ed.D., Executive Assistant Director 764-4279

In response to the escalation of substance abuse and violence by younger and more aggressive offenders, the Division established the Bureau of Special Operations in 1990. The Bureau is staffed by specially recruited, selected and trained professionals who provide intensive team supervision in the Baltimore metropolitan area to persons on parole or probation at risk of returning to crime.

BUREAU OF FIELD OPERATIONS W. Roland Knapp, Assistant Director 764-4281

The Bureau of Field Operations was created in 1978 to decentralize the statewide administration of parole and probation services into four administrative regions.

OFFICES OF REGIONAL OPERATIONS

To implement decentralization of statewide parole and probation services, Offices of Regional Operations were formed in 1980.

DRINKING DRIVER MONITOR PROGRAM Carole F. Hinkel, Administrator

764-4310

The Drinking Driver Monitor Program began in 1983. The Program ensures that drinking drivers are referred to and actively participate in substance abuse education or treatment programs, as well as refrain from further driving while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled dangerous substance.